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Amendment B (2 pp)

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE APPLICATION OF:

GREGORY ALLEN CHAPMAN ET. AL. CASE NO.: FL0210 US CIP

APPLICATION NO.: 10/891182 GROUP ART UNIT: 1711

FILED: OCTOBER 22, 2003 EXAMINER: TERRESSA BOYKIN

FOR: REACTION OF FLUOROPOLYMER MELTS

AMENDMENT B

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 4, 2005, please consider the following Remarks in the above-identified application:

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed on August 4, 2005, claim 1 (sic.) was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 (b or e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,677,404 or US 20050080211 or U.S. Patent No. 6,645,590. Claim 2 (sic.) was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 (e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,645,590. Presumably the Examiner means claims 21 and 22 stand rejected, but clarification of this point is requested.

It is possible that the Examiner has failed to take into account the recitation of fluorination in an extruder as recited in claims 20 and 21, since the Examiner appears to have incorrectly considered claims 1 and 2, and not claims 20 and 21, which specifically recites fluorination in an extruder. It is noted that Applicant canceled claims 1 – 19 in Amendment A, filed on May 18, 2005. Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 in the Office Action mailed on August 4, 2005 is requested for the following specific reasons.

Applicant respectfully submits that U.S. Patent No. 5,677,404 contains no reference to fluorinating TFE/HFP copolymer in an extruder. Applicant therefore requests withdrawal of the rejection based on this reference.